

(d).—EXPLOITATION OF MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE.

(1).—*Clear or Regeneration Fellings.*

104. In the East Khándesh division clear fellings of bábul were made in the coupes of the season in the Trans-Purna reserves over an area of 90 acres, and further a felling of 500 khandis of bábul fuel was made in Reoti forests in Bhusával, standing stock in 2,048 acres of disforested lands in Chálisgaon was disposed of by sale, and a clearance of 813 acres was effected at Virwada in the Chopda range in the disforested lands at the foot of Sátpudas, 13,000 teak trees were cleared from revenue waste and málki lands in Jámner range.

105. The only clear felling made in the West Khándesh division was at Ubhand in the Nizampur range where 200,000 cubic feet of Khair and inferior firewood were cut and the coupes afterwards sown up with seeds.

106. No clear fellings properly so called were undertaken in the Násik division, but the first growth of wood in occupied numbers outside of forest boundaries has been sold to contractors in the ranges of Peint, Násik and Bágán, and the teak in certain occupied numbers was sold to the occupants. The total number of trees is given at 226,547.

107. In the Ahmednagar division clear fellings were confined to bábul reserves. The whole material of a coupe is sold on foot to purchasers for felling and removing all the growth, so that it can then be sown with seeds. 80,067 cubic feet of timber were thus removed. In like manner in the divisions of Poona, Sátara and Sholápur the bábul coupes only were subjected to this process of felling.

(2).—*Selection Fellings.*

108. No selection fellings were undertaken in this Circle except in the Násik division, where one hundred khandis of Tivas (*Ougeinia dalbergioides*) were sold to a purchaser at Rs. 11-2-0 per khandi, the trees to be felled being marked by the Range Forest Officer, Peint.

(3).—*Improvement Fellings and (4).—Coppice Fellings.*

109. Improvement fellings on the system of coppice with standards which are made in the interests of existing crop were undertaken in the coupes worked on a rotation of 40 years. Under this system up to 40 sound teak trees, and where sound ones cannot be found unsound ones are reserved per acre, or one tree per guntha. In addition to this, all young trees less than one foot in girth at breast height from the ground and all mango, hirda, shikakái, and other valuable trees are reserved, the remaining unsound and crooked ones being cut and removed.

(5).—*Unregulated Fellings.*

110. Under this head can be classed the exploitations of timber, firewood, bamboos and other forest produce from the Sátpuda forests by the Bhil privilege-holders in the two divisions of Khándesh, and fellings made to supply free grants and to clear boundary lines also come under this head.

(e).—EXTRACTION AND TRANSPORT OF MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE BY LAND AND WATER.

111. The timber and firewood cut departmentally are stacked either inside or outside the forest limits generally accessible to carts, and when sold are removed by purchasers in the same way as material sold standing is removed. The material is generally removed in carts where cart tracks offer, and they are to be found in almost all directions; sometimes timber is dragged by bullocks where carts cannot go. The Railways are also made use of where they may present the cheaper and quicker mode of transport. Water carriage is only available in parts of Khándesh and Sátara divisions.

(f).—EXPLOITATION OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCE.

(1).—*Extraction of Fodder.*

112. Grass is exploited by hand from certain closed forests called "valuable kurans," the right to cut grass being sold by auction, and also on permits issued on payment of fees. The same means that are used for removing timber, &c., are utilised for the conveyance of grass.